

REMARKS

The following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004. In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

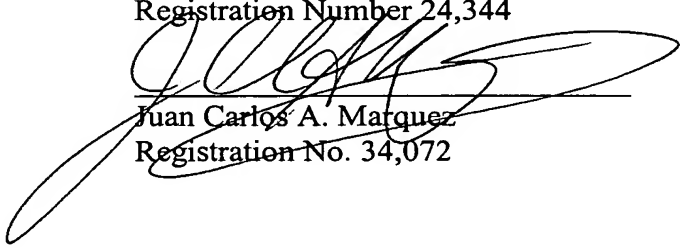
Restriction Requirement

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the continued prosecution of the invention identified as Species I (Embodiment 1), set forth in claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15 - 18 and 20, without traverse. Applicants submit that claim 1, as indicated by the Examiner, is generic to all of the identified species. Applicants understand that the non-elected Species 2 - 4 as recited in claims 9, 10, 13, 14 and 19 are hereby withdrawn from further consideration in this application, pending the allowability of a generic claim. It is further understood that if such a generic claim is allowed, all the non-elected species and their corresponding claims would be brought back in and allowed in this application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected inventions.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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